

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /063 W
-----053952 142258Z /66

R 141634Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0851
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION GENEVA

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ALSO FOR USEEC

USOECD

USMTN ALSO FOR MISSION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, BE, NL, LU

SUBJECT: PROSPECTIVE BENELUX COORDINATION OF TRADE
POLICIES

1. DEHENNIN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AT THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY, TOLD EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR IN
CONFIDENCE THAT BENELUX COUNTRIES HAVE DECIDED TO
COORDINATE THEIR POLICIES ON THE MTN AND ON SIGNIFICANT
TRADE MATTERS OUTSIDE THE MTN, SUCH AS RHODESIAN CHROME.
DEHENNIN ATTRIBUTED THIS MOVE TO CONCERN BY THESE SMALL
COUNTRIES ABOUT THEIR LACK OF INFLUENCE IN THE EUROPEAN
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COMMUNITY AND THEIR EXCLUSION FROM "BIG POWER" SUMMIT
MEETINGS. ACCORDING TO DEHENNIN, IT WAS BELGIUM WHICH
TOOK THE INITIATIVE ON COORDINATION IN THE COURSE OF
DEVELOPING ITS POSITIONS FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE
COMMUNITY AND IN ASSESSING ITS POLICIES FOR THE
TINDEMANS II ADMINISTRATION.

2. AS A FIRST STEP IN THIS DIRECTION, SENIOR BELGIAN OFFICIALS WILL BE GOING TO THE HAGUE NEXT WEEK TO START DISCUSSIONS OF TRADE POLICIES. THE BELGIANS AND DUTCH INTEND TO HOLD THE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MEETING CLOSELY AND DO NOT INTEND TO PUBLICIZE THEIR ACTIVITIES. IF COORDINATION OF POLICIES APPEARS PROMISING IN THE TRADE FIELD, DEHENNIN SAID COORDINATION COULD ALSO BE EXTENDED TO OTHER AREAS IN WHICH THE COMMUNITY HAS COMPETENCE.

3. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER DENMARK AND IRELAND WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THIS COORDINATION AND WAS TOLD THERE WAS NO INTENTION OF INVOLVING THESE TWO COUNTRIES. ACCORDING TO DEHENNIN, THE INTERESTS OF DENMARK AND IRELAND WERE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF THE BENELUX, NOTING THAT DENMARK GENERALLY SUPPORTED GERMAN POSITIONS AND IRELAND LEANS TOWARD FRANCE. CHAMBERS

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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